



Early Journal Content on JSTOR, Free to Anyone in the World

This article is one of nearly 500,000 scholarly works digitized and made freely available to everyone in the world by JSTOR.

Known as the Early Journal Content, this set of works include research articles, news, letters, and other writings published in more than 200 of the oldest leading academic journals. The works date from the mid-seventeenth to the early twentieth centuries.

We encourage people to read and share the Early Journal Content openly and to tell others that this resource exists. People may post this content online or redistribute in any way for non-commercial purposes.

Read more about Early Journal Content at <http://about.jstor.org/participate-jstor/individuals/early-journal-content>.

JSTOR is a digital library of academic journals, books, and primary source objects. JSTOR helps people discover, use, and build upon a wide range of content through a powerful research and teaching platform, and preserves this content for future generations. JSTOR is part of ITHAKA, a not-for-profit organization that also includes Ithaka S+R and Portico. For more information about JSTOR, please contact support@jstor.org.

Influence of Temperature on the Separate Sexes of Flowers.—Mr. MEEHAN referred to his former observation, recorded in the Proceedings, that the male flowers in *Amentaceæ*, and other dioecious plants would grow, become perfectly developed, and mature the pollen under a temperature wholly insufficient to excite the growth of the female flower, which would remain undeveloped until a warmer temperature ensued. He had shown that the infertility of hickories, oaks, walnuts, hazelnuts, and other plants, a complaint common among orchardists in our country, arose from this fact, there being very little or often no pollen to fertilize the flowers in seasons when a few moderately warm days in winter would bring the aments to perfection a month or even months before the female flowers grew. This season we had no warm winter days, and at this time, middle of April, the aments in the hazelnuts and the female flowers were maturing together.

Mr. Meehan added that when he first reported these observations to the Academy he believed them wholly original, but he had since noted that similar observations had been communicated to the Horticultural Society of London, on the 18th of February, 1823, by Rev. George Swayne. "I entertain," says he, "a strong suspicion that the very frequent failures of the filbert crop (Mr. Williamson tells us that they totally fail three years out of five) are in great measure occasioned by a deficiency either in number or in power of the male blossom." He remedied this by experiment, by getting aments from other trees and hanging them in the trees that had lost them. This gentleman, however, did not apparently perceive the underlying principle that it took less heat to perfect the male flowers than the female flowers of the same species. It was quite possible this generalization might be carried out of the region of amentaceous or allied plants, and carried to a wide range of vegetable species, or even into zoology.

APRIL 28.

Mr. EDW. POTTS in the chair.

Fourteen persons present.

A paper entitled "On the genus *Aphredoderus*," by Willis S. Blatchley, was presented for publication.

Mr. Philip Laurent and the Rev. J. R. Danforth, D. D., were elected members.

Elasticity in the Fruit of Cactaceæ.—At the last meeting of the Botanical Section, Mr. THOMAS MEEHAN exhibited fruit of *Mamillaria Heyderi*, and remarked on the elastic characters of this and other species. This *Mamillaria*, under culture, flowers in April